

The City of Bloomington Volunteer Network's



News from the Network

Connecting you to the volunteer community



December 11, 2008

www.bloomington.in.gov/volunteer

[past editions/printable format](#)

Greetings Volunteer Network Members:

It's hard to believe that this will be our last newsletter of 2008.... and what a year it's been! There have been a lot of changes over the past 12 months here at the Network, and we're happy to say that they were all changes for the better! 2008 brought us our first Volunteer VIP session, the implementation of the new volunteer matching system, Volunteer Solutions, and an invigorated partnership with Indiana University as members of the IU Civic Engagement Campus-Community Stakeholders. Change will continue to be the theme as we enter 2009. We're looking forward to implementing even more new and exciting changes here at the Network – especially in the areas of training and resources for our member agencies. See you in 2009!

~Bet & Lucy

The City of Bloomington Volunteer Network

NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

How Will the Economic Crisis Affect Volunteering?

Have you ever read Susan J. Ellis' monthly articles on volunteerism? This latest, which you can find on the Energize website, counters assumptions which people hold, such as

- Assumption #1: In hard times, people "can't afford" to volunteer.
- Assumption #2: When people are suffering financially, they have self-centered priorities and are less likely to think about the needs of others.
- Assumption #3: Financial worries cause mental depression, fear of the future, and other difficult emotions that cause people to withdraw.
- Assumption #4: Anything that isn't a human service is of low importance in a recession.

The article can be viewed in its entirety at: www.energizeinc.com/hot/2008/08nov.html

How Do Volunteers Find the Time? Evidence from the American Time Use Survey



From a study by the Corporation for National and Community Service:

Volunteers trade off more than an hour a day of TV watching, on average, to engage in service. On average, recent volunteers watch approximately 15 hours of television per week, compared to approximately 21 hours for former volunteers and 23 hours for non-volunteers. These differences add up over the course of a typical year: 325 more hours of TV watching, or nearly two full weeks each year, between former volunteers and recent volunteers, and 436 more hours of TV watching for non-volunteers compared to recent volunteers. [Read the briefing here.](#)

Service Learning - November Volunteer VIP Session Follow-up



Our thanks to IU's Office of Service Learning (OSL) Director, Nicole Schonemann and Assistant Director, Andrew Libby, for joining us at the November Volunteer VIP meeting. About 25 volunteer coordinators participated and shared ideas about how developing service learning projects can give a boost to their programs. The OSL office would like to remind the volunteer service community that Andrew Libby will be at the Scholar's Inn Bakehouse (125 N. College, corner of College & 6th) every Wednesday from 10 a.m. to noon throughout the academic year, beginning again on January 14th for Spring semester.

Please feel free to meet with Andrew to provide feedback, ask questions, and share ideas. Community agencies who are not yet working with OSL are also welcome to drop by to explore possibilities for new partnerships with Indiana

University faculty and staff. If you can't make it during those hours, don't hesitate to call Andrew at the Office of Service-Learning at 856-5686 or email at alibby@indiana.edu.

A Premier Example of Service Learning

A couple of years ago, the Volunteer Network did a fantastic service learning project with James Reidharr's graphic design class. You may have seen some of the results on City busses, promoting volunteerism. [View a summary of this project.](#)

Fill the Gap! Promote Your Winter Break Volunteer Needs Online

We often use Community Kitchen, Shalom Community Center and Middle Way House as examples of organizations that have to plan well in advance *and* beat the bushes to cover their volunteer shifts when the students leave over the holidays. It's a message that we work to get out to potential volunteers several times a year. We call the campaign "Fill the Gap!" If winter, spring and summer breaks are particularly difficult time for you, please let us know! Contact us to get the word out, 349-3433 or volunteer@bloomington.in.gov.

RESOURCES

United Way Nonprofit Resource Center

Did you know that the United Way of Monroe County is host to a comprehensive, searchable computer database listing over 75,000 grant sources and a resource library of over 150 lendable books? It's true! And it's all free to nonprofits in Monroe County. The Foundation Center Directory Database is available by appointment. Please call for an orientation, 812-334-8370. Open Monday - Friday from 9:30am to 4:30pm. [Find out more here.](#)

GRANTS, FUNDING AND RECOGNITION PROGRAMS

City Offering Buskirk-Chumley Theater Grant Program – Info session Dec. 17; deadline Jan. 30.

The City of Bloomington's Parks and Recreation Department and the Office of the Mayor have announced the 2009 Buskirk-Chumley Theater Grant Program. The goal of the program is to provide community organizations low-cost access to the theater for programming with clear benefit to the public. [Read more about this opportunity here.](#)

"Pay It Forward Program" Gives No-Cost Rentals for Nonprofits at the BCT

Do you know about the Buskirk-Chumley Theater's "Pay It Forward" donation campaign? Individuals or businesses which give to the Buskirk-Chumley Theater at the \$2,000+ level during their annual campaign not only support fantastic programming in our community, but can benefit their favorite non-profit organization at the same time! At this level of giving, the individual or business is rewarded with a free use of the Buskirk-Chumley Theater. The donor may utilize this rental for their own purposes – a private gathering or company party – or the donor may PAY IT FORWARD by giving this reward to any local non-profit arts group or social service agency to use. The donor is then able to take the full amount of tax benefit (\$1,000 credit from the Theater, \$1,000 credit from the nonprofit). That's giving twice! Questions? Contact Danielle McClelland, Executive Director, BCT Management, Inc. at director@buskirkchumley.org or (812) 323-3022.

City's King Commission Seeks Nominees for MLK Legacy Award - Deadline Jan. 9

Nominate someone who has made significant and tangible contributions in the areas of race relations, justice, and human rights for this annual award presented at the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Birthday Celebration. Nominations are due January 9, 2009. [Submit a nomination online or download the nomination form here.](#)

President's Volunteer Service Awards – Rolling Deadline

The Volunteer Network administers this program locally for those 18 and under. While there is no specific due date for these awards, the Network submits them on the first of each month. These awards are an excellent way to reward and recognize the young volunteers in your program, and it helps them with their job, college and scholarship applications! [Read More About How to Apply.](#)

VOLUNTEER AGENCY SPOTLIGHT

Volunteer Agency Spotlight - Bloomington World Wide Friendship



Have you ever seen international students on campus? Have you ever invited them into your home for some American hospitality? This time the Spotlight shines on **Bloomington World Wide Friendship**, an organization dedicated to making international students feel welcome here in the Bloomington community. Read more about BWF [here](#).

If your agency would like to be included in a future Spotlight, contact our intern Mercedes at

349-3501 or mcdowelm@bloomington.in.gov.

CALENDAR

Dec. 12

Martin Luther King, Jr. Day of Service Grant Applications Due

Deadline to submit an application for volunteer project funding from the City's Martin Luther King, Jr. Commission. (Application available at www.bloomington.in.gov/mlk)

Dec. 17

Information session on City Buskirk-Chumley Theater grant program (see above)

Jan. 9

Deadline to submit MLK Legacy Award nominations (see above)

Jan. 19

MLK Holiday – Day of Service

Make yours “A Day On! Not A Day Off”. Service projects and volunteer opportunities for Bloomington are listed [here](#).

Jan. 20

Volunteer VIP meeting

SAVE THE DATE! Topic: Technology and Volunteer Management. Peter Iverson, the Community Relations and Volunteer Coordinator for the Salvation Army, is the lead for this program that is sure to be on the technology tip!

Jan. 30

Deadline to submit City Buskirk-Chumley Theater grant proposal (see above)

April 21

Be More Awards – Annual Community Volunteer Celebration & Recognition

SAVE THE DATE! Come celebrate our community’s amazing volunteers at this well-loved event (formerly known as the Heart and Hand Awards) returning to the Buskirk-Chumley Theater during National Volunteer Week 2009! More information about nominations and the awards ceremony will be available soon.

National Days of Service in 2009

January 19, 2009 Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

April 24-26, 2009 Global Youth Service Day

April 19-25, 2009 National Volunteer Week

May 2, 2009 Join Hands Day

To learn more about any of the National Days of Service visit the [National Days of Service Calendar](#).

WEEKLY VOLUNTEER UPDATE

Get your volunteer recruitment efforts featured in the Weekly Volunteer Update! Wish you could reach thousands of interested potential volunteers with one simple task? You can!

[Submit your volunteer recruitment requests now.](#)

[Read the current Weekly Volunteer Update...](#)

Next newsletter issue: Jan. 8, 2009

We want to hear from you! Send feedback or information to volunteer@bloomington.in.gov.

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